

I CLAIM:

1. A method of arranging for a provision of music from a provider of music to an operator of a public medium comprising the following steps:

- acquiring from the operator a right to play a selection of music in said public medium; and
- transferring said right to play music to the provider of music.

2. A method according to claim 1 further comprising the following steps:

- delivering said selection of music from said provider of music to said operator; and
- playing said selection in said public medium.

3. A method according to claim 1 further comprising the step of selecting the operator.

4. A method according to claim 1 further comprising the step of selecting the provider of music.

5. A method according to claim 4 further comprising the step of selecting the operator.

6. A method according to claim 1 further comprising the step of selecting from the provider of music an appropriate selection of music to play in said public medium.

7. A method according to claim 1 further comprising the step of arranging for the payment of copyright license fees to the owners of a copyright subsisting in said music.

8. A method according to claim 1 wherein the public medium is selected from a group consisting of retail stores, bars, sports stadiums, sports arenas, hand-held

devices including personal communication devices, mobile phones and personal digital assistants, phone line holding ports and on-line websites.

9. A method according to claim 1 wherein the provider of music is selected from a group consisting of a record company, a record producer, a music publisher, record distributor, a recording studio, an individual artist, an individual, a music provider and an agent for musical artists.

10. A method according to claim 1 wherein the right to play a selection of music in said public medium is at a pre-determined time and for a pre-determined length of time.

11. A method of acquiring music for an operator of a public medium to play in said medium comprising the following steps:

- arranging with the operator to find a provider of music based on a set of criteria;
- selecting an appropriate provider of music based on said set of criteria; and
- arranging for the provider of music to acquire from the operator a right to play a selection of music in said public medium .

12. A method according to claim 11 further comprising the step of delivering said music from the provider of music to the operator.

13. A method according to claim 11 wherein the provider of music is selected according to a pre-selected set of criteria provided by the operator.

14. A method according to claim 11 further comprising the step of selecting from the provider of music an appropriate selection of music to play in said public medium.

15. A method according to claim 11 further comprising the step of arranging for the payment of copyright license fees to the owners of a copyright subsisting in said music.

16. A method according to claim 11 wherein the public medium is selected from a group consisting of retail stores, bars, sports stadiums, sports arenas, hand-held devices including personal communication devices, mobile phones and personal digital assistants, phone line holding ports and on-line websites.

17. A method according to claim 11 wherein the provider of music is selected from a group consisting of a record company, a record producer, a music publisher, a record distributor, a recording studio, an individual artist, a music provider and an agent for musical artists.

18. A method according to claim 11 wherein the right to play a selection of music in said public medium is at a pre-determined time and for a pre-determined length of time.

19. A method of arranging a business transaction comprising the following steps:

- selecting a provider of music;
- selecting an operator of a public medium wherein said medium is appropriate for playing music of the provider of music based on a set of pre-determined criteria provided by said operator; and
- arranging for the provider to acquire from the operator a right to play a selection of music in said public medium ; and

20. A method according to claim 19 further comprising the step of arranging for the payment of copyright license fees to the owners of a copyright subsisting in said music.

21. A method according to claim 20 wherein the public medium is selected from a group consisting of retail stores, bars, sports stadiums, sports arenas, hand-held devices including personal communication devices, mobile phones and personal digital assistants, phone line holding ports and on-line websites.

22. A method according to claim 21 wherein the provider of music is selected from a group consisting of a record company, a record producer, a music publisher, a record distributor, a recording studio, an individual artist, a music provider and an agent for musical artists.
23. A method according to claim 19 wherein the right to play a selection of music in said public medium is at a pre-determined time and for a pre-determined length of time.
24. A method of conducting a business transaction between a provider of music and an operator of a public medium comprising the step of arranging for the acquisition of a right to play a selection of music in said public medium by the provider from the operator.
25. A method according to claim 24 wherein the right to play a selection of music in said public medium is at a pre-determined time and for a pre-determined length of time.
26. A method for an operator of a public medium to acquire music for playing in said public medium comprising the step of transferring to a provider of music a right to play a selection of music in said public medium.
27. A method according to claim 26 wherein the right to play a selection of music in said public medium is at a pre-determined time and for a pre-determined length of time.
28. A method for a provider of music to acquire the right to play music in a public medium comprising the step of acquiring from an operator of a public medium a right to play a selection of music in said public medium.
29. A method according to claim 28 wherein the right to play a selection of music in said public medium is at a pre-determined time and for a pre-determined length of time.

30. A method according to claim 19 wherein there is no cost to a member of the public for accessing said music from said public medium.